

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Office Action dated September 22, 2006. Claims 1-19 are currently pending. Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, and 17 have been amended, and no claims have been cancelled.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for engaging in a telephone interview on December 18, 2006. During the telephone interview, the Examiner and the undersigned representative discussed the references cited in the present Office Action and the claimed subject matter. The following remarks reflect and expand upon the discussion during the December 18 telephone interview. As such, applicant respectfully requests that this response also constitute applicant's interview summary.

In the September 22, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification for allegedly having informalities. The specification has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. As such, the objection to the specification should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 5 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner objected to the phrase "on the order of" in these claims. Claims 5 and 12 have been amended to replace the phrase "on the order of" with the phrase "about." Similar to the claim language "stretching .. at a rate exceeding about 10%" in *W.L. Gore & Assocs v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d, 1540 (Fed. Cir. 1983), "said raised ridge structure has a height about 0.2 microns" in claims 5 and 12 comply with Section 112, second paragraph. As such, the Section 102 rejection of claims 5 and 12 should be withdrawn.

The Examiner also rejected claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,043,481 to Tan et al. ("Tan"). Without commenting on or conceding the merits of these rejections, independent claims 1, 8 and 15 have been amended to further clarify the claimed subject matter. For example, claim 1 has been amended to recite "wherein said raised ridge structure has a triangular cross-

section and at least partially supports said micro-lens." Support for the amended subject matter can be found at, for example, Figure 8 of the specification as filed.

The amended claims are patentable over the cited references because these claims include features that are neither taught nor suggested in the cited references. For example, neither Tan nor Assadi disclose or suggest "said raised ridge structure has a triangular cross-section and at least partially supports said micro-lens" of claim 1. Assuming that Tan's ridge element 19 corresponds at least in part to the raised ridge structure of claim 1, Tan's ridge element 19 has a rectangular cross-section instead of a triangular cross-section and does not at least partially support the micro-lenses. As a result, Tan does not support a Section 102 rejection of claim 1. Claims 8 and 15 have been amended to contain subject matter generally similar to that of claim 1, and so are also patentable over the cited references. Claims 2-7, 9-14 and 15-19 depend from claims 1, 8, or 15, and so are also patentable over the cited references for the reasons discussed above and for the additional features of these claims. Accordingly, the Section 102 rejection of claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 15 and 16 and the Section 103 rejection of claims 2, 3, 9, 10, 17 and 18 should be withdrawn.

The Examiner also rejected claims 2, 3, 9, 10, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tan in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,166,369 to Assadi et al. ("Assadi"), claim 4 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tan, and claims 5, 7, 12, 14 and 19 as being unpatentable over Tan in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,396,090 to Nakai ("Nakai").

As discussed above, Tan fails to disclose or suggest at least one feature of claims 1, 8, and 15, and Assadi and Nakai fail to fill this void. For example, even though Assadi discloses reflective surfaces 12 having a triangular cross section, Assadi does not disclose or suggest that the reflective surfaces 12 can at least partially support the micro-lens 24. Contrarily, Assadi teaches away from such an arrangement because if the reflective surfaces 12 at least partially support the micro-lens 24, then the micro-lens 24 would cover

up a portion of the reflective surfaces 12 and so the amount of surface that can reflect incident light would be reduced. The reduction in reflected light into the micro-lens 24 is in direct opposition to Assadi's design purpose. As a result, the combination of Tan and Assadi and the combination of Tan and Nakai do not support a Section 103 rejection of claims 2-5, 7, 9-12, 14, and 17-19. Accordingly, the Section 103 rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

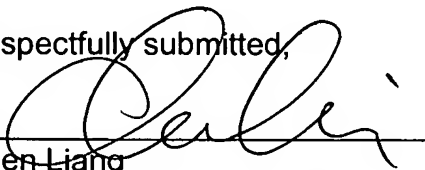
In view of the above amendment, applicant believes that the pending application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is, therefore, respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any question or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned representative at (206) 359-6038.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 396118015US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated:

12/21/06

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Chen Liang

Registration No.: 51,945
PERKINS COIE LLP
P.O. Box 1247
Seattle, Washington 98111-1247
(206) 359-6038
(206) 359-7038 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant